



the AMAZING SPIDER-MAN

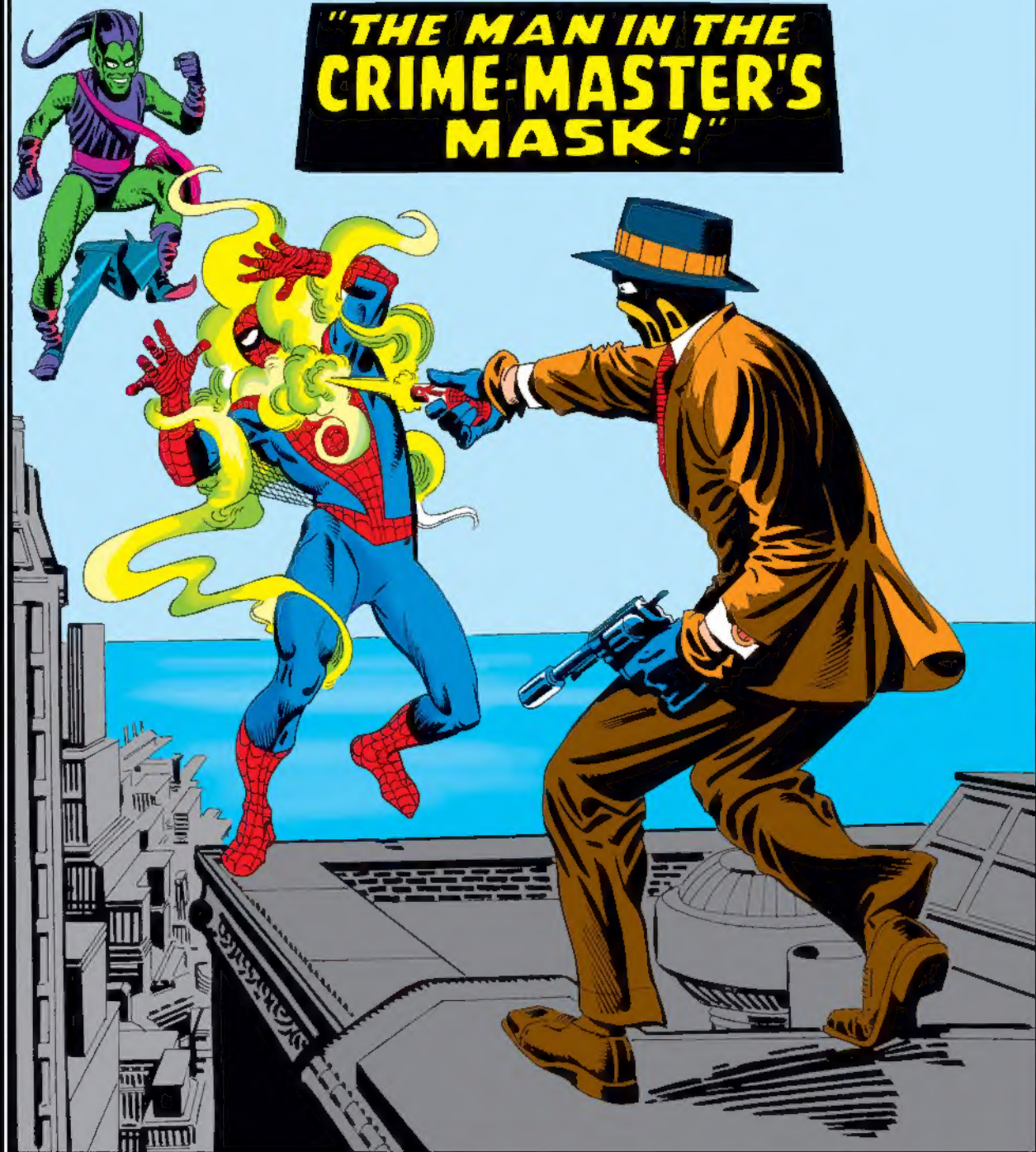
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IND.

**"THE MAN IN THE
CRIME-MASTER'S
MASK!"**





THE MYSTERY OF "THE MAN IN The CRIME-MASTER'S MASK!"

BOTH THE **CRIME-MASTER** AND THE **GREEN GOBLIN** KNOW EACH OTHER'S TRUE IDENTITIES!!

But...

WHAT STRANGE SECRET IS KNOWN ONLY TO **FREDERICK FOSWELL ??**



CAN **SPIDER-MAN** SOLVE THIS DARK RIDDLE, CLOAKED WITHIN A GRIM PUZZLE, HIDDEN BENEATH THE SHADOWS OF A DEADLY ENIGMA??

STEALTHILY SCRIPTED BY.... **STAN LEE**
PAINSTAKINGLY PLOTTED AND
DRAWN BY... **STEVE DITKO**
LOVINGLY LETTERED BY... **S. ROSEN**

WITH THE COMING OF NIGHT, A SILENT TEEN-AGER FURTIVELY OPENS HIS BEDROOM DOOR...

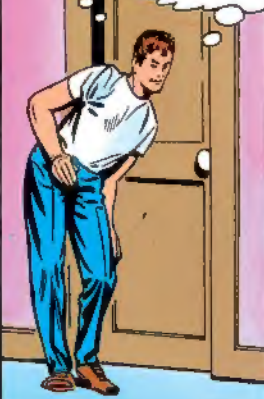
NOW IS MY CHANCE TO FIND THE COSTUME AUNT MAY TOOK FROM ME!*



*AS SHOWN IN SPIDER-MAN # 25 ... STAN.

I CAN TELL BY HER STEADY BREATHING THAT SHE'S SOUND ASLEEP!

SO FAR, SO GOOD!

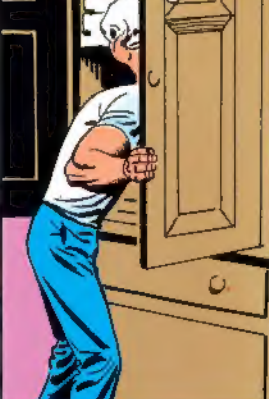


IT'S NOT HERE IN THE TRASH CAN, SO SHE COULDN'T HAVE THROWN IT AWAY YET!

IT MUST STILL BE SOMEWHERE IN THE HOUSE!



I'VE TRIED EVERY CLOSET AND CUPBOARD! THERE ISN'T A SIGN OF IT! PERHAPS, IN THE ATTIC...



NOPE! NOT HERE, EITHER!

THE ONLY PLACE LEFT TO LOOK IS IN HER OWN ROOM! BUT I CAN'T GO IN THERE TILL THE MORNING!



WHAT A PICKLE TO BE IN! A SPIDER-MAN WITHOUT HIS COSTUME IS LIKE A BEATLE WITHOUT HIS HAIR! IT COULD ONLY HAPPEN TO ME!



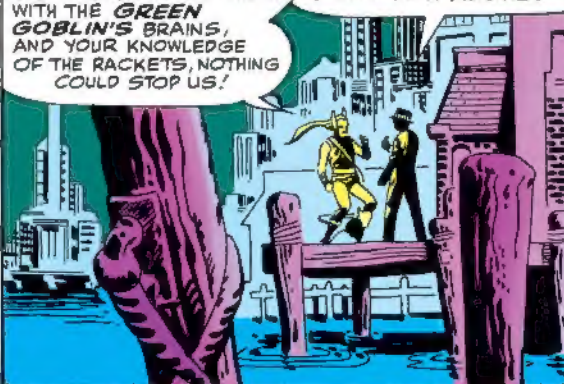
I WISH I KNEW WHAT JONAH JAMESON DID WITH MY OTHER COSTUME! THE ONE I TRICKED HIM WITH ON THAT ROOFTOP! OH, WELL, I'LL WORRY ABOUT IT TOMORROW.



BUT, THERE ARE STILL MORE WORRIES IN STORE FOR THE SLEEPING PETER PARKER! FOR, AT THAT VERY MOMENT, UNDER COVER OF DARKNESS, A MYSTERIOUS MEETING IS TAKING PLACE...

YOU CAN'T BACK OUT NOW! WE AGREED THAT I'D HELP YOU TAKE OVER THE UNDERWORLD! THEN, WITH THE GREEN GOBLIN'S BRAINS, AND YOUR KNOWLEDGE OF THE RACKETS, NOTHING COULD STOP US!

FORGET IT! I DECIDED I DON'T NEED YOU! I'M THE CRIME-MASTER! I CAN DO IT ALONE!



BUT I REVEALED MY TRUE IDENTITY TO YOU AS PART OF THE DEAL! IF YOU THINK I'LL LET YOU GET AWAY WITH ---!

THERE'S NOTHING YOU CAN DO! TRY TO STOP ME, AND I'LL SEE TO IT THAT THE WORLD KNOWS WHO YOU REALLY ARE! NOW GET LOST! I'VE GOT THINGS TO DO!



UNLESS YOU'RE WILLING TO TAKE ORDERS FROM ME! I CAN ALWAYS USE ANOTHER FLUNKY! HOW ABOUT IT, GOBLIN?



YOU'VE OUT-SMARTED YOURSELF THIS TIME! REMEMBER, I KNOW WHO YOU ARE, TOO! SO YOU HAVEN'T HEARD THE LAST OF ME!

HE'S BLUFFING! HE CAN'T EXPOSE ME ANY MORE THAN I CAN EXPOSE HIM! IT'S A STALEMATE!



LATER, AT THE HIDEOUT OF ONE OF THE CITY'S MANY UNDERWORLD MOBS ...

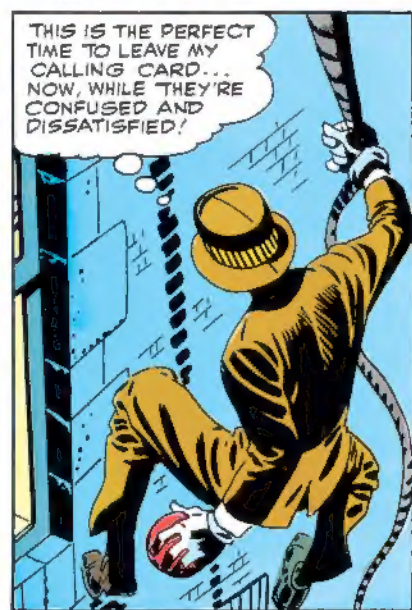
SINCE THE POLICE HAVE HAD THE HEAT ON US, WE HAVEN'T BEEN ABLE TO PULL A CAPER FOR WEEKS!

AND AS IF THAT AIN'T BAD ENOUGH, WE NEVER KNOW WHEN SPIDER-MAN WILL SNARE US IN THAT BLASTED WEB OF HIS!

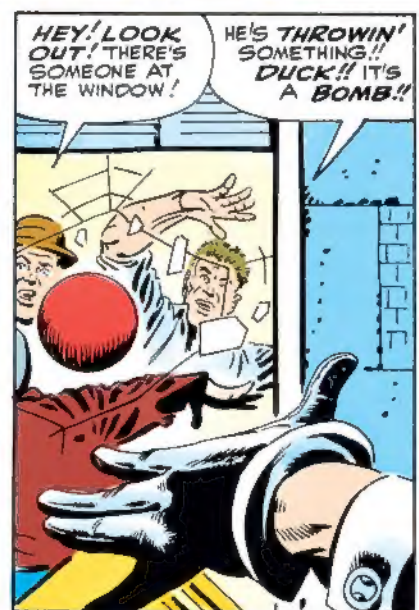


WELL, ONE THING'S FOR SURE... WE'VE GOT TO PULL A JOB SOON, OR DISBAND!

AHH, I'M JUST IN TIME!



THIS IS THE PERFECT TIME TO LEAVE MY CALLING CARD... NOW, WHILE THEY'RE CONFUSED AND DISSATISFIED!



HEY! LOOK OUT! THERE'S SOMEONE AT THE WINDOW!

HE'S THROWIN' SOMETHING!! DUCK!! IT'S A BOMB!!



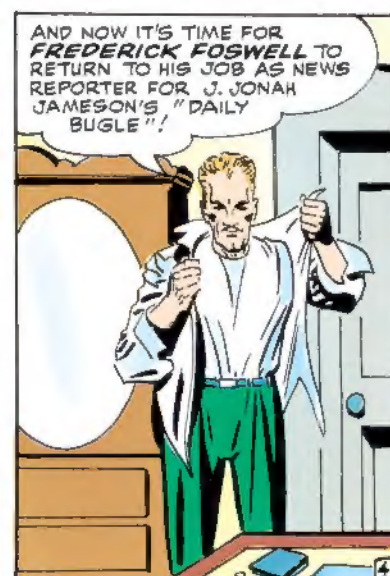
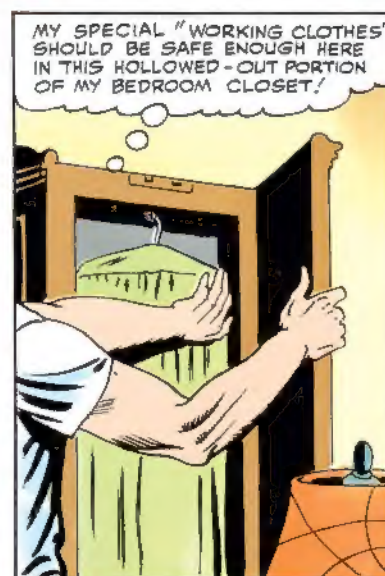
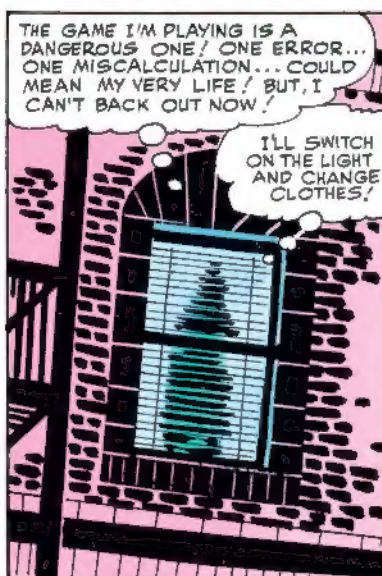
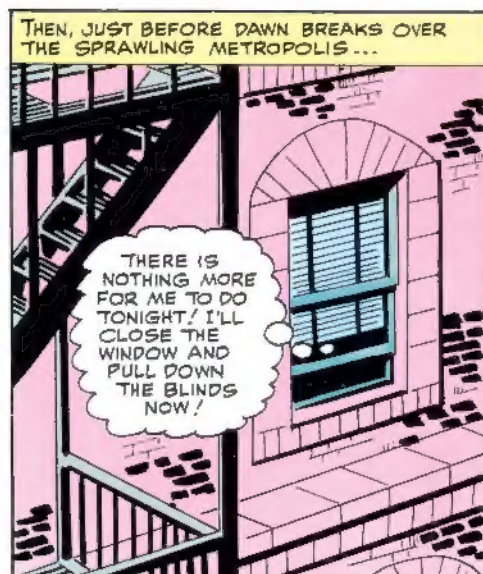
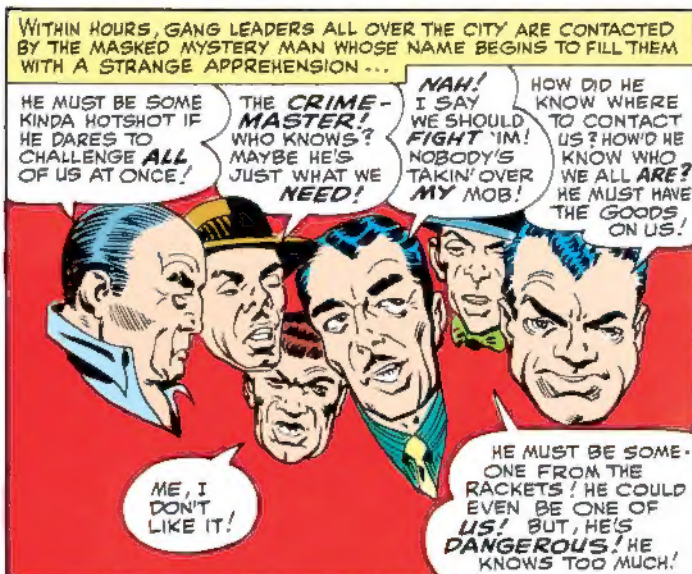
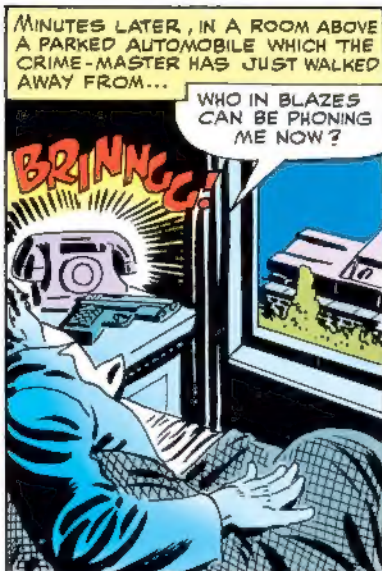
NO...HOLD IT! IT BROKE OPEN! THERE'S NOTHING INSIDE BUT A NOTE!

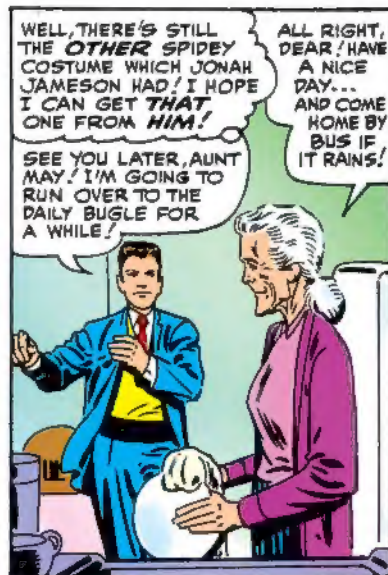
GIMME! I'LL READ IT! "THIS IS YOUR FIRST AND LAST NOTICE! FROM NOW ON I'M TAKING OVER THE RACKETS! DEFEY ME, AND IT WILL NOT BE A FALSE ALARM NEXT TIME!" IT'S SIGNED... THE CRIME MASTER!

THE CRIME-MASTER?! ???!



IT WENT AS SMOOTH AS CLOCKWORK! BUT, THAT WAS ONLY THE BEGINNING! BEFORE I'M DONE, THE ENTIRE UNDERWORLD WILL TREMBLE AT THE MERE MENTION OF THE NAME CRIME-MASTER!



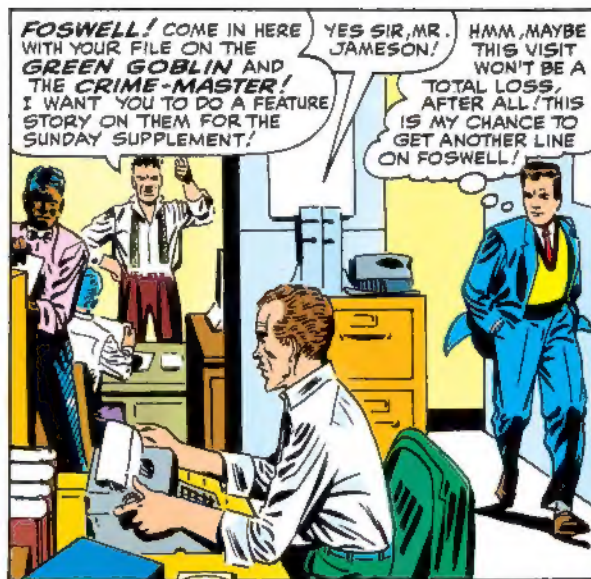




GET BACK TO WORK, MISS BRANT!

AND, PARKER, THIS IS AN OFFICE, NOT AN ARENA! IF YOU HAVEN'T ANY PHOTOS TO SELL ME, GO DO YOUR SHOUTING ON SOME STREET CORNER!

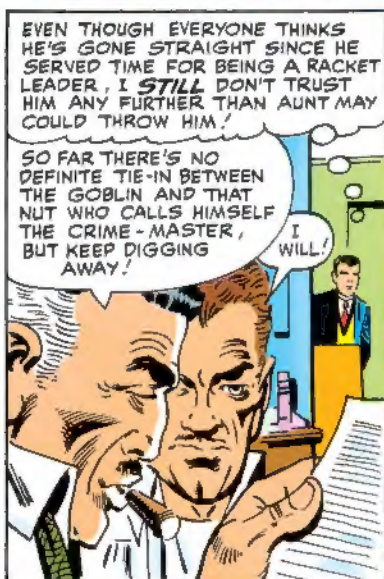
YEESH! I SURE BLEW THAT BIT! I'LL NEVER GET MY SPIDER-MAN COSTUME BACK FROM JOLLY JONAH NOW!



FOSWELL! COME IN HERE WITH YOUR FILE ON THE GREEN GOBLIN AND THE CRIME-MASTER! I WANT YOU TO DO A FEATURE STORY ON THEM FOR THE SUNDAY SUPPLEMENT!

YES SIR, MR. JAMESON!

HMM, MAYBE THIS VISIT WON'T BE A TOTAL LOSS, AFTER ALL! THIS IS MY CHANCE TO GET ANOTHER LINE ON FOSWELL!



EVEN THOUGH EVERYONE THINKS HE'S GONE STRAIGHT SINCE HE SERVED TIME FOR BEING A RACKET LEADER, I *STILL* DON'T TRUST HIM ANY FURTHER THAN AUNT MAY COULD THROW HIM!

SO FAR THERE'S NO DEFINITE TIE-IN BETWEEN THE GOBLIN AND THAT NUT WHO CALLS HIMSELF THE CRIME-MASTER, BUT KEEP DIGGING AWAY!

I WILL!



I'LL JUST SLIP MY LITTLE ELECTRONIC TRACER GIZMO INTO FOSWELL'S HATBAND!

THEN, IF I EVER GET A CHANCE TO BECOME SPIDER-MAN AGAIN, I'LL BE ABLE TO PICK UP HIS TRAIL FROM TIME TO TIME!



BUT, UNTIL I MANAGE TO GET MYSELF ANOTHER SPIDEY COSTUME, THERE'S NOT MUCH OF ANYTHING I CAN DO... EXCEPT WORRY!



AND SPEAKING OF WORRIES, A FEW MINUTES LATER...

WELL, WELL! LOOK WHO'S HERE! OL' PUNY PARKER FINALLY GOT TIRED OF TRYING TO HIDE FROM ME!

GET OFF MY BACK, LOUDMOUTH! I'M IN NO MOOD FOR YOUR MUSCLEBOUND MIRTH TODAY! AND THE SAME GOES FOR YOUR GANG OF GRINNING HYENAS!

HEY! WHO ARE YOU CALLIN' HYENAS?

LOOK IN THE MIRROR AND YOU'LL FIND OUT!



HOW ABOUT THAT? HE'S A REGULAR BOB HOPE TODAY!

YEAH! AND HE'S LIABLE TO BE A REGULAR HOSPITAL CASE TOMORROW IF HE DOESN'T CLAM UP!

HEY, IT LOOKS LIKE THE MOUSE IS TRYIN' TO TURN INTO A LION, HUH, FLASH?

OKAY, YOU BRAINLESS BABOONS! YOU'VE LAUGHED AT ME FOR THE LAST TIME...!

AND, AS LUCK WOULD HAVE IT, THE PRINCIPAL TURNS TOWARDS THE WINDOW AT THAT VERY MOMENT, AND SEES ...

I'D NEVER HAVE BELIEVED IT! PETER PARKER DELIBERATELY ATTACKED THAT GROUP OF BOYS!

WHAT COULD HAVE COME OVER HIM?!



BUT SUDDENLY, A SHARP FEMALE VOICE RINGS OUT, AS PETER PARKER'S RAGE FADES AWAY BEFORE HE CAN FULLY APPLY HIS AWESOME SPIDER STRENGTH!

STOP IT! STOP IT, I SAY!

HOLY SMOKE! WHAT AM I DOING?? ANOTHER MINUTE, AND I'D HAVE EXPOSED MYSELF AS SPIDER-MAN!



STAY OUT OF THIS, LIZ! I'M SICK OF YOU ALWAYS PROTECTING THAT MILK-SOP!

PROTECTING HIM? IT LOOKED TO ME LIKE HE WAS DOING FINE, AGAINST ALL YOU BULLIES!

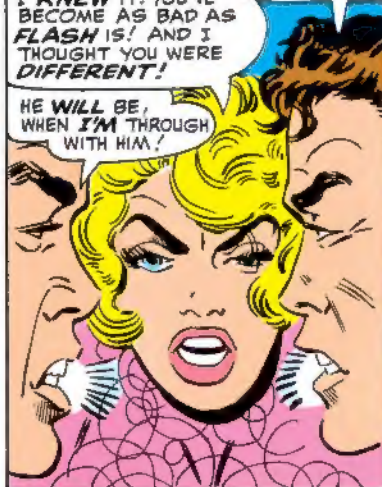
IT'S LUCKY LIZ CAME BY WHEN SHE DID! LUCKY FOR THEM, THAT IS!



IT'S OKAY, LIZ! DON'T WORRY ABOUT ME! THAT BIRDBRAIN DOESN'T SCARE ME!

I KNEW IT! YOU'VE BECOME AS BAD AS FLASH IS! AND I THOUGHT YOU WERE DIFFERENT!

HE WILL BE, WHEN I'M THROUGH WITH HIM!



I'M THROUGH WITH BOTH OF YOU! I NEVER WANT TO SEE EITHER OF YOU AGAIN!

DON'T WORRY, LIZ! I'LL FIX IT SO YOU WON'T SEE PARKER ANY MORE!

FIRST BETTY IS MAD AT ME, AND NOW LIZ! WHAT A DON JUAN I AM!



HEY, PARKER! THE PRINCIPAL WANTS TO SEE YOU ... ON THE DOUBLE! YOU'RE IN FOR IT NOW!

BOY! MR. DAVIS MUST HAVE SEEN PARKER SWINGING AT US! HE THINKS HE STARTED IT!

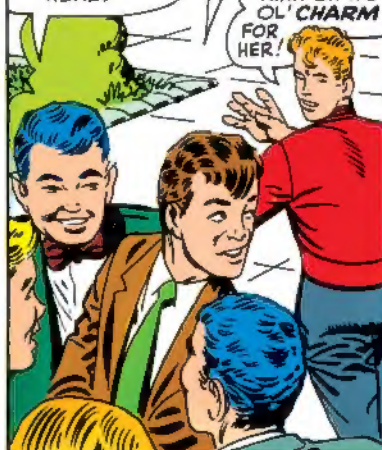
THAT MEANS WE'RE IN THE CLEAR! DAVIS MAY EVEN EXPEL HIM!



HAH! WHAT A CRYIN' SHAME! WE SURE WILL MISS PUNY PARKER AROUND HERE!

WHERE YOU GOIN', FLASH?

I'LL SEE IF I CAN FIND LIZ! I'LL TURN ON THE OL' CHARM FOR HER!



A FEW MINUTES LATER ...

I COULDN'T HELP OVERHEARING OUTSIDE THE DOOR! PARKER TOOK THE WHOLE RESPONSIBILITY FOR HIMSELF! HE DIDN'T EVEN TRY TO BLAME ANY OF US!

I'LL LET YOU KNOW MY DECISION LATER, PARKER!

IT WAS MY FAULT! I SHOULD HAVE KNOWN BETTER!



BUT, NO SOONER HAS PETER LEFT, WHEN...

MR. DAVIS, I THINK YOU BETTER HEAR THE WHOLE STORY OF WHAT HAPPENED... PARKER REALLY WASN'T TO BLAME...

I'M GLAD TO HEAR YOU SAY THAT, MY BOY! COME IN... WE'LL HAVE A TALK!

BUT, ONCE AGAIN OUR SCENE CHANGES, AS WE SEE THE REAPPEARANCE OF A NOW-FAMILIAR FIGURE...

LOOK OUT, YOU GUYS! IT'S THE CRIME-MASTER!

YOU DARED TO OPENLY DEFEY MY WARNING, AND SO I'LL NOW MAKE AN EXAMPLE OF YOU FOR THE OTHER GANGS!

HE WINGED THE BOSS! WE HAVEN'T A CHANCE! HE'S A CRACK SHOT!

NONE OF YOU HAVE THE BRAINS, OR THE SKILL, OR THE NERVE TO STOP ME! AND NOW, I'LL GIVE YOU ONE LAST CHANCE! WILL YOU ACCEPT ME AS THE KINGPIN OF THE CITY'S GANGS, OR...?

YEAH... SURE! SURE! ANYTHING YOU SAY, CRIME-MASTER!

THAT'S MORE LIKE IT!

NOW, WITH YOU UNDER MY THUMB, THE OTHERS WILL ALL FALL INTO LINE!

AND, ACROSS TOWN, IN THE CITY'S MOST EXCLUSIVE MEN'S CLUB...

JAMESON, HOW CAN YOU AFFORD TO SPEND SO MUCH TIME AWAY FROM YOUR NEWSPAPER, WHEN THERE'S SO MUCH CRIME ACTIVITY IN THE HEADLINES?

DON'T FORGET, AS THE LARGEST NEWSPAPER PUBLISHER IN TOWN, I HAVE ALL SORTS OF INSIDE INFORMATION! THE EVENTS TAKING PLACE IN THE UNDERWORLD ARE ALL BEING CAREFULLY COVERED BY MY STAFF!

TELL ME SOMETHING, J.J....DO YOU HAVE ANY IDEA WHO THE GREEN GOBLIN IS?

HOW ABOUT THE CRIME-MASTER? ARE THEY THE SAME MAN? EVERYBODY'S TRYING TO GUESS!

SORRY, GENTLEMEN! I CANNOT REVEAL THE INSIDE STORY YET! BUT, KEEP READING THE BUGLE! I'LL HAVE A BIG EXPOSE SOON!

ONE OF YOUR REPORTERS IS THIS FELLOW FOSWELL, WHO USED TO BE A BIG TIME CRIMINAL HIMSELF! IS IT WISE FOR YOU TO EMPLOY SUCH A NOTORIOUS CHARACTER?

I THINK YOU DESERVE CREDIT FOR GIVING AN EX-CONVICT A SECOND CHANCE!

YOU KNOW WHAT THEY SAY ABOUT ME, GENTLEMEN...I'M ALL HEART! AND BESIDES, FOSWELL WORKS LIKE A DOG!

BUT NOW, BEFORE YOU START THINKING THE NAME OF OUR MAGAZINE SHOULD BE CHANGED TO "THE LIFE OF JONAH JAMESON", LET'S RETURN TO OUR SWINGIN' TEEN-AGE HERO...

SAY! WHY DIDN'T I THINK OF THIS BEFORE? THAT'S JUST WHAT I NEED...IN THE WINDOW OF THIS COSTUME SHOP!



YOU SAY YOU'RE INTERESTED IN THAT **SPIDER-MAN** OUTFIT? I CAN LET YOU HAVE IT CHEAP! THERE'S NOT MUCH CALL FOR IT LATELY!



HOTCAKES I CAN GET IN A **RESTAURANT!**

BUT, IF YOU WANT SOME-THING **REALLY** POPULAR, WHY DON'T YOU TAKE THAT **FRANKENSTEIN** SUIT? THEY'RE SELLING LIKE HOTCAKES!



OKAY, SON... SUIT YOURSELF! ...NO FUN INTENDED! SHALL I WRAP IT UP, OR WILL YOU WEAR IT OUT?

WRAP IT UP! I WANT TO GIVE IT TO MY DEN MOTHER AS A HOUSE-WARMING GIFT!



MINUTES LATER, THE GLIB-TONGUED ADVENTURER CHANGES INTO HIS NEW COSTUME ON A LONELY ROOFTOP...

LUCKILY THEY MAKE THESE THINGS OUT OF THOSE NEW STRETCH FABRICS NOWADAYS, SO ONE SIZE FITS ALMOST ANY-BODY!

AND NOW, AT LAST I CAN PICK UP THE SIGNALS FROM MY LITTLE GIZMO AND INVESTIGATE FREDERICK FOSWELL!



WOW-EEE! IT SURE FEELS GOOD TO BE BACK IN ACTION AGAIN! I FEEL LIKE AN **EAGLE** WHO'S BEEN LET OUT OF A CAGE!

I MIGHT AS WELL FACE IT... BEING **SPIDER-MAN** IS JUST PLAIN **HABIT-FORMING!** IT'S LIKE GOING OUT WITH GIRLS... I CAN'T GIVE IT UP!



BUT THEN... UH-OH! IT LOOKS LIKE THEY PUT TOO MUCH **STRETCH** IN THESE STRETCH-FABRICS! I'M STARTING TO COME APART!

THAT'S WHAT I GET FOR BEING THE ONLY SUPER-HERO IN TOWN WHO'S NUTTY ENOUGH TO RUN AROUND IN A SECOND-HAND COSTUME!

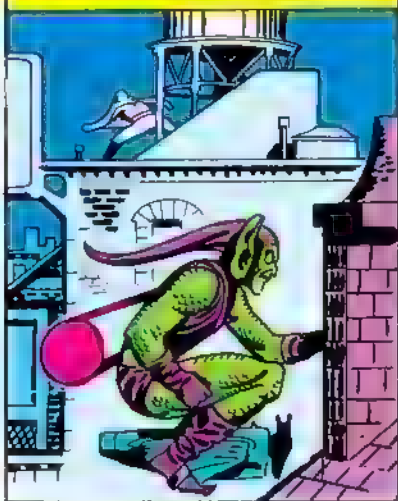


WELL, I'LL JUST USE SOME OF MY **WEBBING** TO HOLD THE BLAMED THING IN PLACE!



THERE! THAT OUGHTTA DO IT!

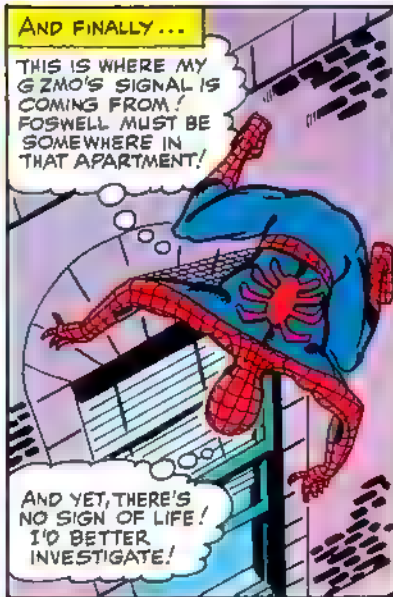
MINUTES LATER, TWO COLORFUL FIGURES PASS EACH OTHER, IN THE NIGHT, NEITHER REALIZING HOW CLOSE HE IS TO THE OTHER...



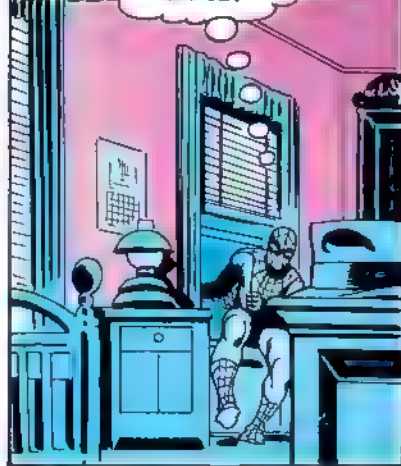
AND FINALLY...

THIS IS WHERE MY GIZMO'S SIGNAL IS COMING FROM! FOSWELL MUST BE SOMEWHERE IN THAT APARTMENT!

AND YET, THERE'S NO SIGN OF LIFE! I'D BETTER INVESTIGATE!

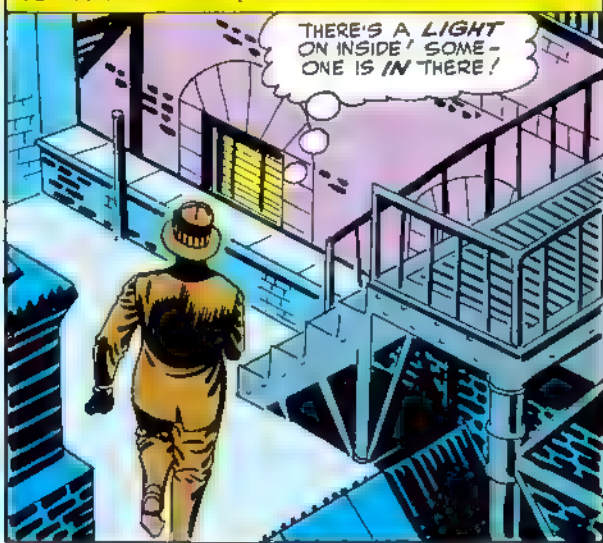


THERE'S HIS HAT... AND THE REST OF HIS CLOTHES, BUT NO FOSWELL! THE PLACE IS EMPTY! I'D BETTER LOOK AROUND WHILE I HAVE THE CHANCE!



BUT, AT THAT MOMENT, **ANOTHER** FORM APPROACHES THE APARTMENT, FROM A DIFFERENT DIRECTION...

THERE'S A LIGHT ON INSIDE! SOMEONE IS IN THERE!

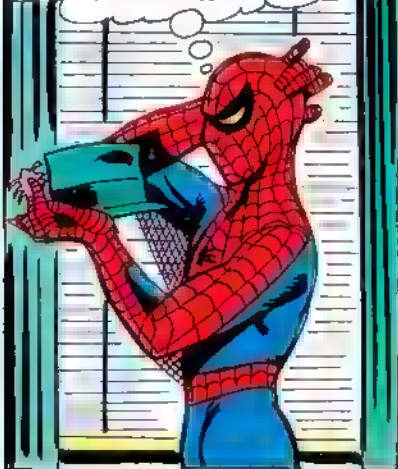


SO LONG AS HE LIVES, HE'LL BE A CONSTANT THREAT TO ME! UNLESS...

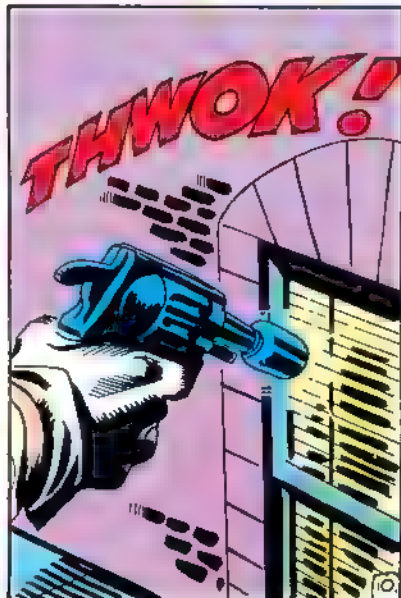
UNLESS I ELIMINATE HIM!

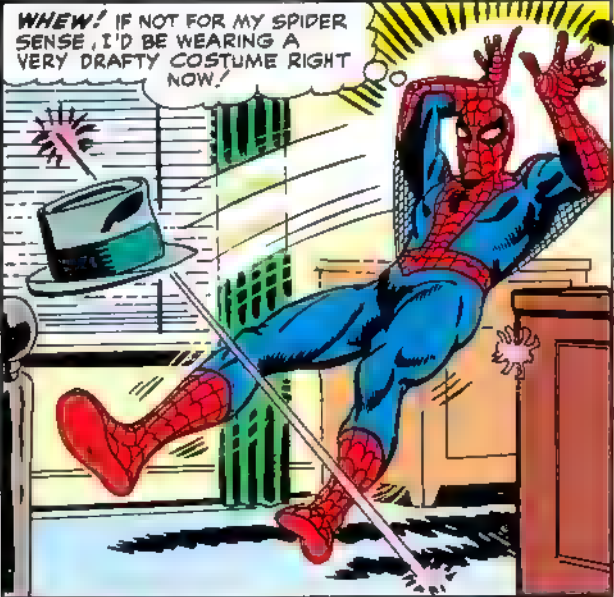


HMM, I WONDER... DID FOSWELL CHANGE HIS CLOTHES BECAUSE HE KNEW MY ELECTRONIC TRACER GIZMO WAS HIDDEN IN HIS HAT? OR, WAS THERE **ANOTHER** REASON??



WAIT A MINUTE! MY SPIDER-SENSE IS TINGLING! DANGER IS NEAR... VERY NEAR!!





WHEW! IF NOT FOR MY SPIDER SENSE, I'D BE WEARING A VERY DRAFTY COSTUME RIGHT NOW!



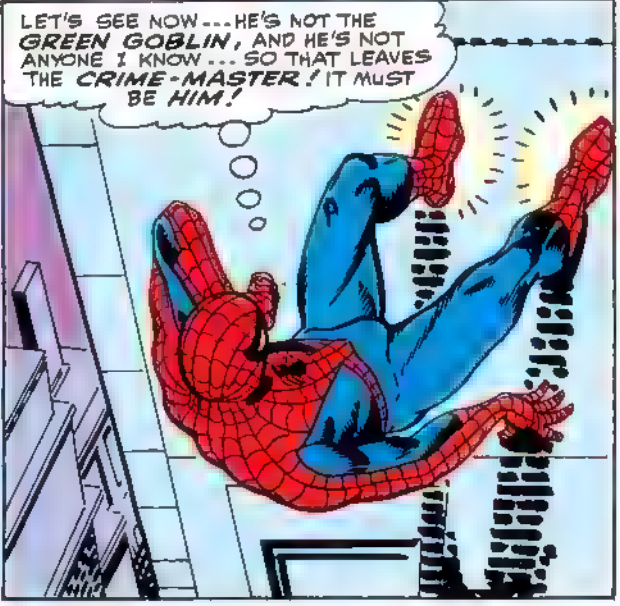
WHOEVER FIRED THAT **FIRST** SHOT IS PROBABLY STILL AROUND! I MIGHT AS WELL BE A **MOVING** TARGET!

NO MATTER HOW FAST YOU MOVE, MY **BULLETS** CAN GO FASTER!

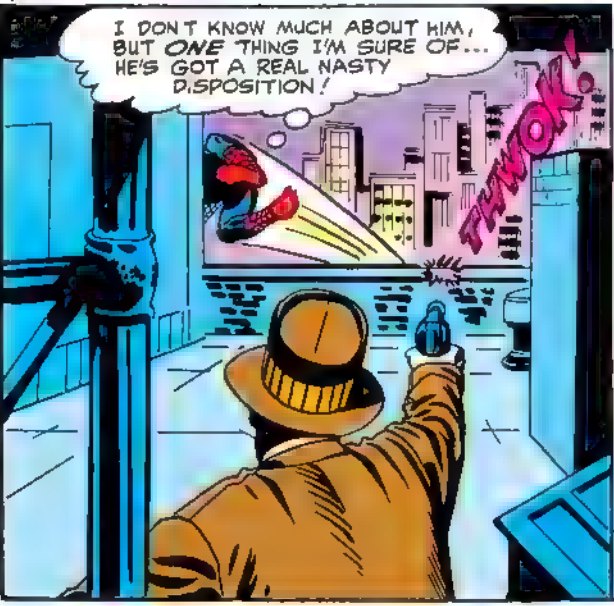


HE'S NOT KIDDING! THAT ONE MISSED BY A WEB HAIR!

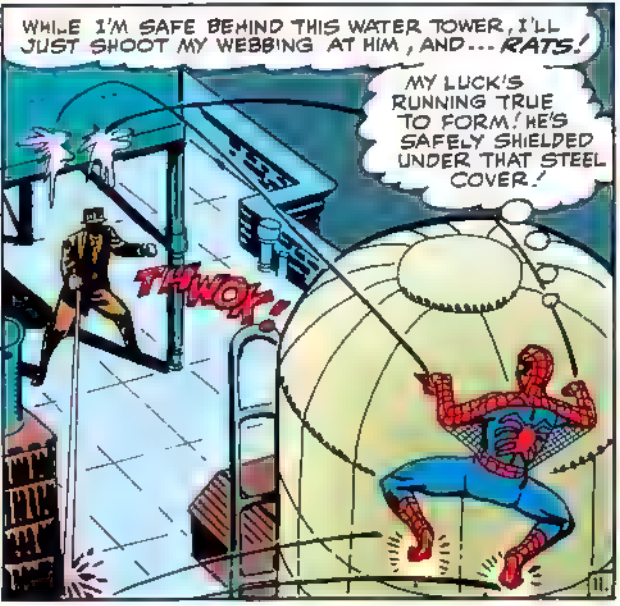
HE'S WEARING A MASK... AND IT'S MUFFLING HIS VOICE! I CAN'T RECOGNIZE IT!



LET'S SEE NOW... HE'S NOT THE **GREEN GOBLIN**, AND HE'S NOT ANYONE I KNOW... SO THAT LEAVES THE **CRIME-MASTER**! IT MUST BE HIM!

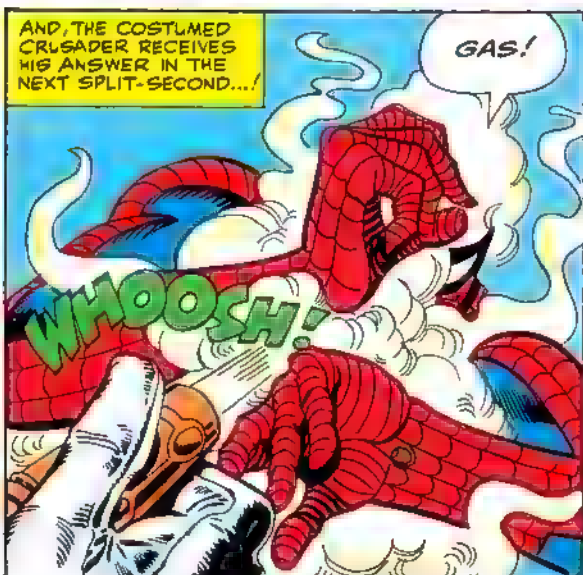


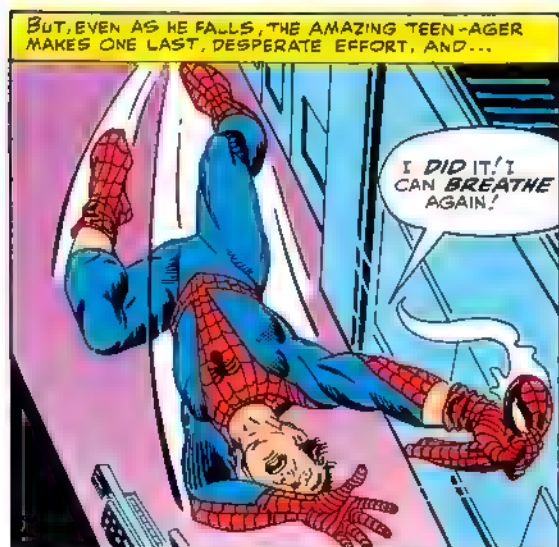
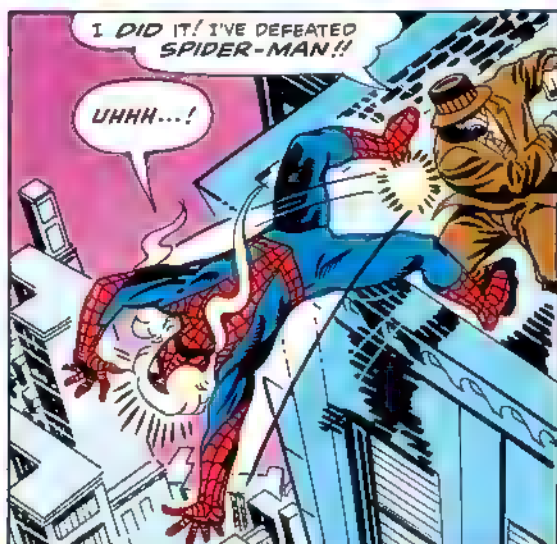
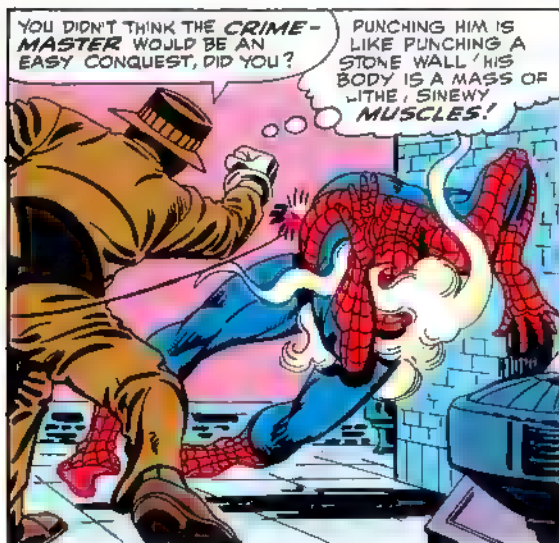
I DON'T KNOW MUCH ABOUT HIM, BUT **ONE** THING I'M SURE OF... HE'S GOT A REAL NASTY DISPOSITION!



WHILE I'M SAFE BEHIND THIS WATER TOWER, I'LL JUST SHOOT MY WEBBING AT HIM, AND... **RATS**!

MY LUCK'S RUNNING TRUE TO FORM! HE'S SAFELY SHIELDED UNDER THAT STEEL COVER!





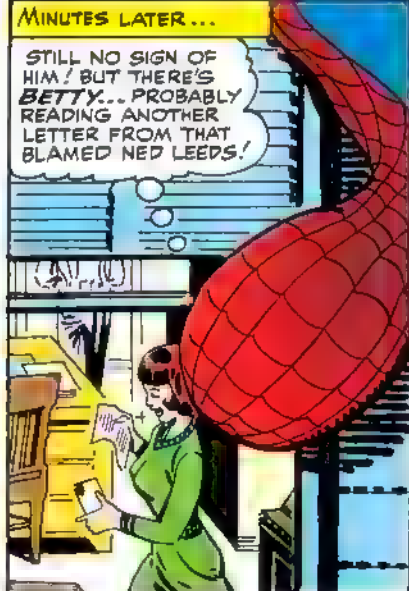
BUT WITH HIS HEAD NOW CLEARED, AND HIS LIGHTNING-FAST REFLEXES OPERATIONAL AGAIN, SPIDEY INSTANTLY REALIZES HIS GRAVE DANGER....!

FALLING !! ABOUT TO HIT THE GROUND !!

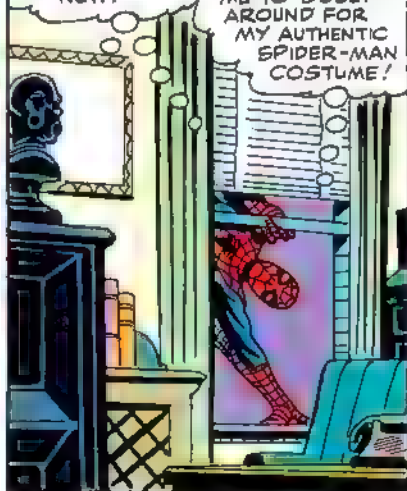


MINUTES LATER...

STILL NO SIGN OF HIM! BUT THERE'S BETTY... PROBABLY READING ANOTHER LETTER FROM THAT BLAMED NED LEEDS!



WELL, I'VE NO TIME TO WORRY ABOUT BETTY'S PEN PALS RIGHT NOW!



HMM, JAMESON'S OFFICE IS EMPTY, TOO! THIS IS A GOOD TIME FOR ME TO SCOUT AROUND FOR MY AUTHENTIC SPIDER-MAN COSTUME!

BUT, AFTER A BRIEF THOUGH PAIN-TAKING SEARCH...

IT'S NOT HERE! NOTHING BUT A MILLION CLIPPINGS ABOUT THE GREEN GOBLIN, THE CRIME-MASTER, AND THAT LITTLE OL' SPIDER-MAN... ME!



OH, WELL, IT'S NICE TO KNOW I STILL RATE AMONG THE BIG THREE!

I WONDER WHAT JAMESON DID WITH MY COSTUME? HE MIGHT HAVE... UH-OH! SPEAK OF THE DEVIL...

RESERVE A TABLE FOR ME AT MY CLUB FOR DINNER, MISS BRANT!



HI, CHEERFUL CHARLIE! YOU WENT TO SO MUCH TROUBLE TO FIND ME LAST TIME WE MET, THAT I THOUGHT I'D RETURN THE FAVOR NOW!

SPIDER-MAN!

THE NAME SOUNDS LIKE MUSIC WHEN YOU SAY IT!



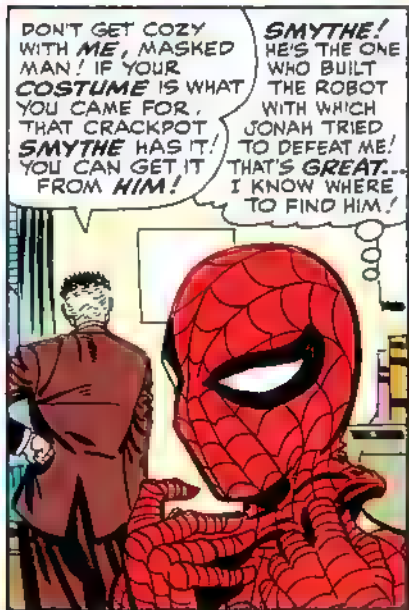
OKAY, IF YOU CAME IN TO GLOAT OVER BEATING ME LAST TIME, HAVE YOUR FLN AND THEN GET LOST! I'VE GOT WORK TO DO!

AWWW! DON'T GO WAY MAD! ARE YOU STILL SULKING BECAUSE YOU TRIED TO CAPTURE ME, AND ONLY WOUND UP WITH MY COSTUME!?



DON'T GET COZY WITH ME, MASKED MAN! IF YOUR COSTUME IS WHAT YOU CAME FOR, THAT CRACKPOT SMYTHE HAS IT! YOU CAN GET IT FROM HIM!

SMYTHE! HE'S THE ONE WHO BUILT THE ROBOT WITH WHICH JONAH TRIED TO DEFEAT ME! THAT'S GREAT... I KNOW WHERE TO FIND HIM!



WELL, I'LL BE LEAVING NOW, J.J./ YOU'RE JUST NOT THE CHEERFUL LITTLE FUN PERSON THAT YOU USED TO BE!

AND, MORE IMPORTANT, THIS DRATTED MASK KEEPS POPPING OUT!

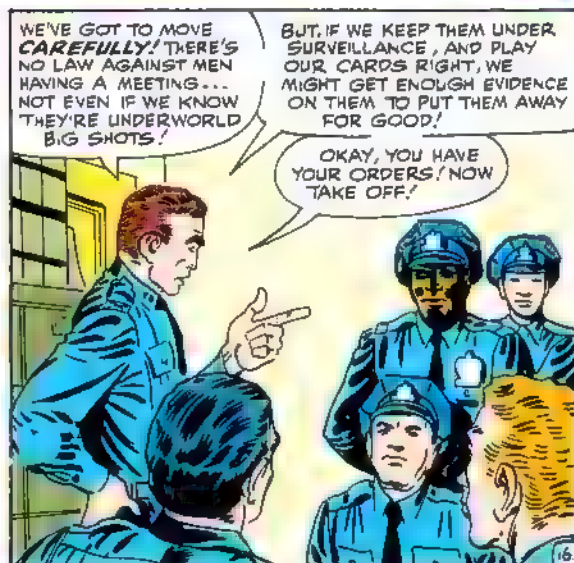
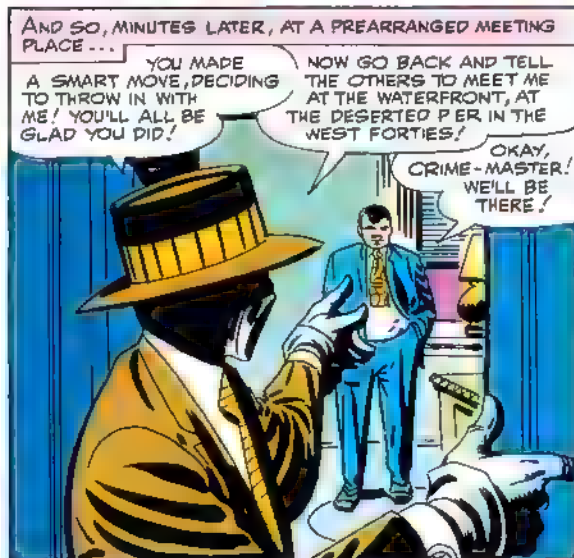
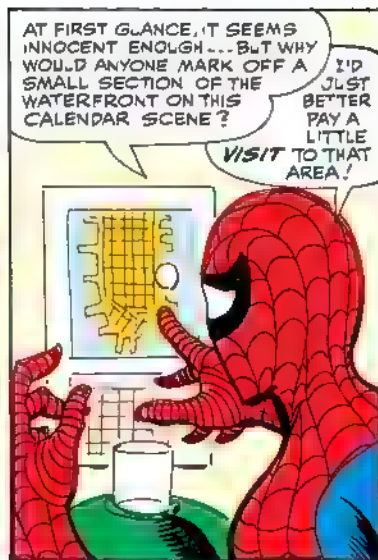


POOR JONAH! I THINK HE'S JUST ABOUT GIVEN UP ON ME! I DON'T KNOW WHETHER TO BE HAPPY OR SAD!

MMM, I'D BETTER SEAL THE MASK WITH SOME STICKY WEBBING FLUID!

AT LEAST I KNOW IT'LL STAY ON UNTIL THE WEB EVAPORATES





AT THE WATERFRONT, A SHORT TIME LATER, WE NEAR OUR STIRRING CLIMAX...

LOOKS LIKE MY HUNCH WAS CORRECT! SOMETHING IS DEFINITELY IN THE WIND... OTHERWISE ALL THOSE CARS WOULDN'T BE BRINGING THOSE HARD-LOOKING CHARACTERS TO A DESERTED PIER!



I BROUGHT SOME OF MY MUSCLE MEN, JUST IN CASE! WHAT'S THE DELAY? ISN'T THE CRIME-MASTER HERE YET?

NO! HE'LL SHOW UP AFTER EVERYONE'S ARRIVED! JUST GO INSIDE AND WAIT WITH THE OTHER GUYS!



BUT ANOTHER CONFERENCE IS SECRETLY TAKING PLACE NEARBY...

YOU CAN'T DO THIS WITHOUT ME! THE WHOLE PLAN WAS ORIGINALLY MINE! IF YOU TRY TO SQUEEZE ME OUT, I'LL ...!

YOU'LL DO NOTHING! NOT SO LONG AS I HAVE THE PROOF OF YOUR REAL IDENTITY LOCKED IN A SAFE DEPOSIT VAULT!



IF I'M EVER FOUND DEAD, THE POLICE WILL OPEN THAT VAULT AND LEARN WHO... HEY! WHA...?!

YOU CHEAP DOUBLE-CROSSER! THE GREEN GOBLIN DOESN'T HAVE TO RESORT TO MURDER! THERE ARE OTHER WAYS...!!



HE WAS HIDING A GUN BEHIND HIS BACK!

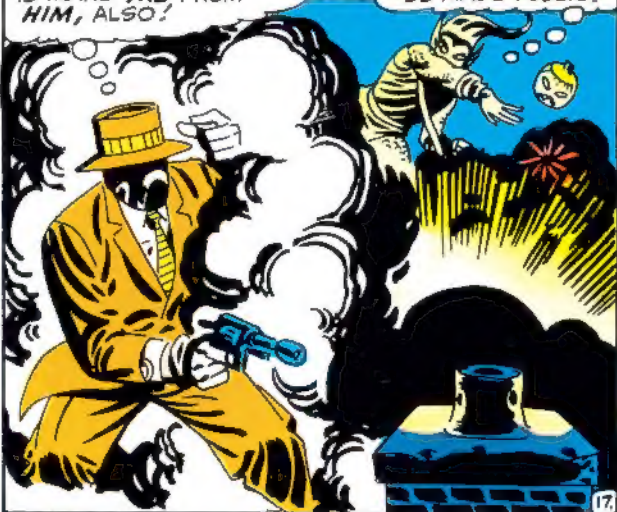
WELL, THE SMOKEY EXHAUST FROM MY JET GLIDER WILL COVER ME SO THAT HE WON'T KNOW WHERE TO SHOOT!

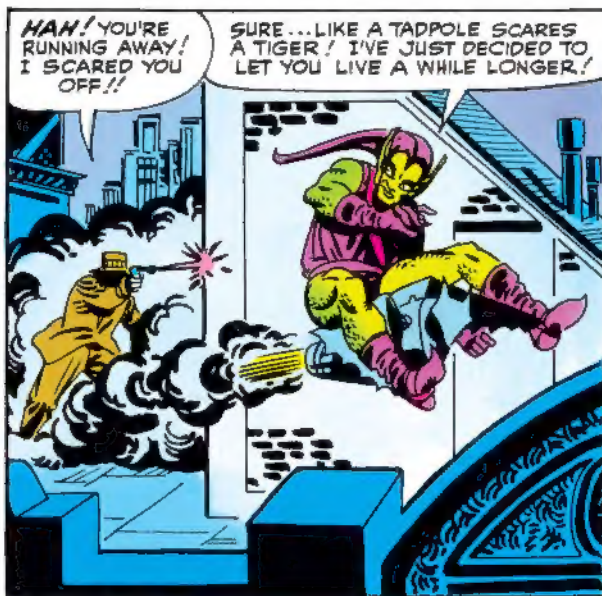
BLAST YOU! NO MATTER HOW TRICKY YOU ARE, A BULLET CAN STILL GET RID OF YOU FOREVER!



HE'S THROWING STUN BOMBS, BUT I'M IN LUCK... HIS OWN SMOKE IS HIDING ME FROM HIM, ALSO!

I'D BETTER HOLD OFF! IF I SHOULD ACCIDENTALLY KILL HIM, MY SECRET WILL BE MADE PUBLIC!





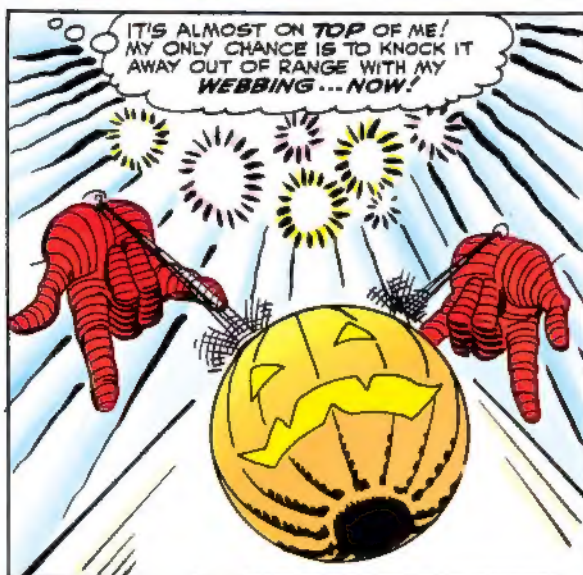


HAA! EVEN YOUR FAMOUS SPIDER-STRENGTH CAN'T WARD OFF THE EFFECTS OF A DIRECT HIT BY MY FAST-MOVING JET GLIDER!



NOW, WHILE YOU'RE GROGGY, I'LL FINISH YOU OFF WITH ONE CAREFULLY-THROWN **STUN BOMB**...!

HAVE TO HANG ON!! HAVE TO USE SPIDER-SENSE TO KEEP TRACK OF STUN BOMB...!



IT'S ALMOST ON **TOP** OF ME! MY ONLY CHANCE IS TO KNOCK IT AWAY OUT OF RANGE WITH MY **WEBBING**... **NOW!**



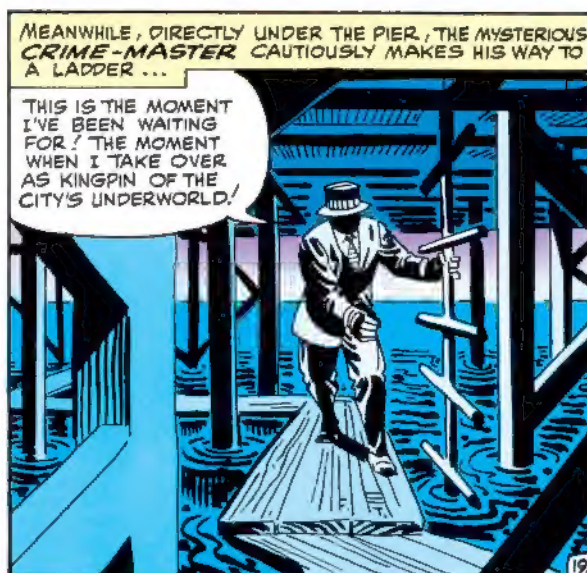
BUT, ALTHOUGH THE AMAZING ADVENTURER'S QUICK THINKING SUCCEEDS IN SAVING HIM FROM A FATAL DIRECT HIT, THERE ISN'T TIME TO HURL THE BOMB FAR ENOUGH AWAY BEFORE IT EXPLODES...!

OHHH...!



I'VE BEATEN HIM AT **LAST!** BUT, HIS HEADPIECE WON'T COME OFF! I WANT TO **UNMASK** HIM, BUT IT'S STUCK TOO TIGHT!

WELL, THERE'LL BE TIME FOR THAT **LATER!** RIGHT NOW, I'VE SOMETHING MORE IMPORTANT TO DO!



MEANWHILE, DIRECTLY UNDER THE PIER, THE MYSTERIOUS **CRIME-MASTER** CAUTIOUSLY MAKES HIS WAY TO A LADDER...

THIS IS THE MOMENT I'VE BEEN WAITING FOR! THE MOMENT WHEN I TAKE OVER AS **KINGPIN** OF THE CITY'S UNDERWORLD!

EVERYONE IS HERE! EVERY MOB LEADER
IN THE AREA! THEY'VE ALL COME TO
ACCLAIM *ME* AS THEIR LEADER!



AND NOW, FOR MY
LONG-AWAITED
MOMENT OF
TRIUMPH!

HEY, PIPE DOWN, YOU GUYS!
CLAM UP, ALL OF YOU! THE
CRIME-MASTER IS HERE!
HE'S GONNA TELL US ABOUT
HIS PLANS!

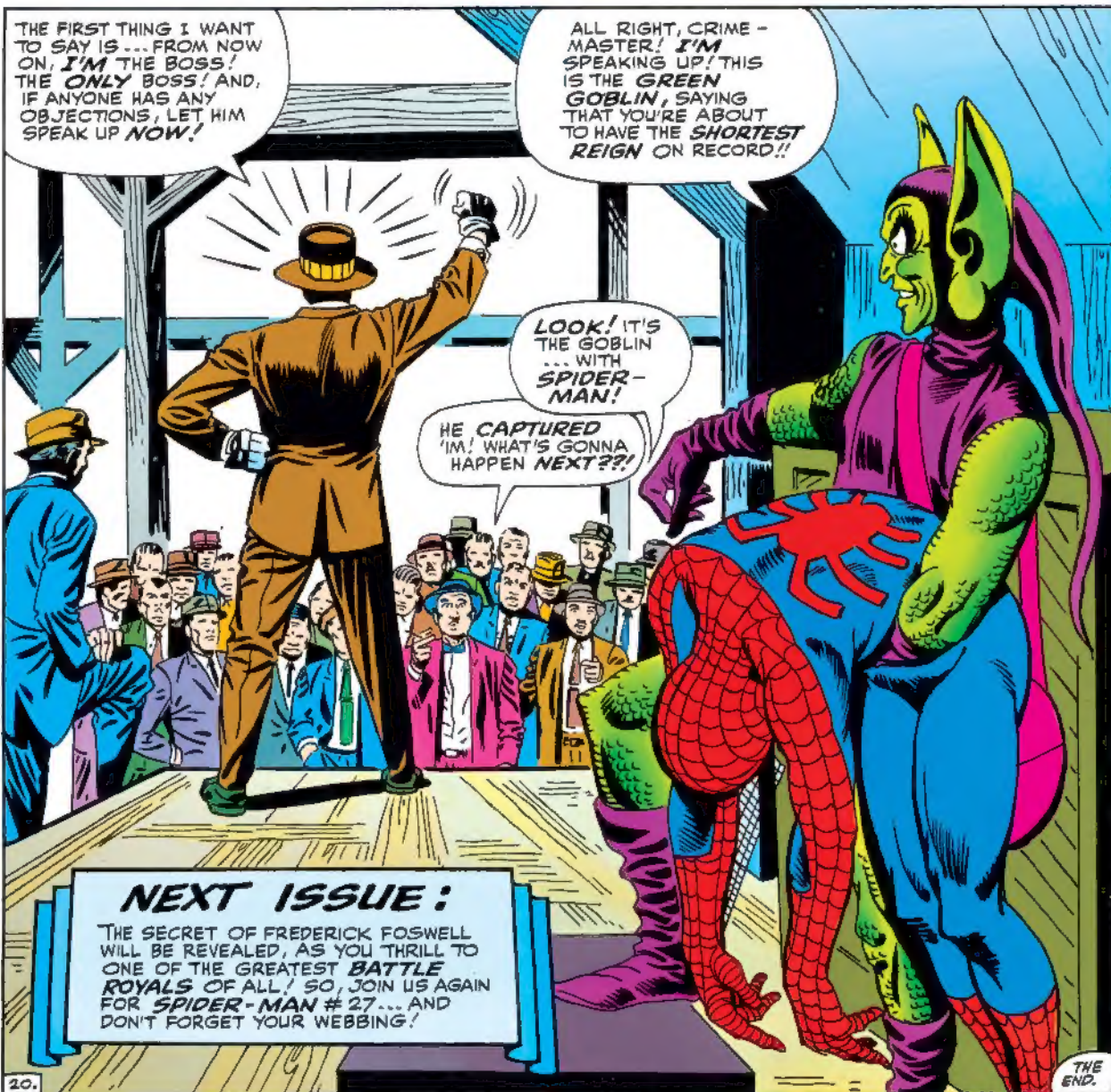


THE FIRST THING I WANT
TO SAY IS ... FROM NOW
ON, *I'M* THE BOSS!
THE **ONLY** BOSS! AND,
IF ANYONE HAS ANY
OBJECTIONS, LET HIM
SPEAK UP *NOW*!

ALL RIGHT, CRIME -
MASTER! *I'M*
SPEAKING UP! THIS
IS THE **GREEN**
GOBLIN, SAYING
THAT YOU'RE ABOUT
TO HAVE THE **SHORTEST**
REIGN ON RECORD!!

LOOK! IT'S
THE GOBLIN
... WITH
SPIDER-
MAN!

HE CAPTURED
'IM! WHAT'S GONNA
HAPPEN NEXT??!



NEXT ISSUE :

THE SECRET OF FREDERICK FOSWELL
WILL BE REVEALED, AS YOU THRILL TO
ONE OF THE GREATEST **BATTLE**
ROYALS OF ALL! SO, JOIN US AGAIN
FOR **SPIDER-MAN** # 27... AND
DON'T FORGET YOUR WEBBING!